

1. An image photographing apparatus for photographing a still image, comprising:

and

2. An image photographing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said control means also controls said imaging device when the still image is being photographed.

3. An image photographing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said control means determines a start position of the detection area and the amount of image signals to be read out within the detection area, and, accordingly, only the image signals within the detection area are read out of said imaging device.

5. An image photographing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein, based on the read image signals, at least one of automatic focus control, automatic photographic sensitivity control, and automatic white balance control is performed.

when the image signals generated by the imaging device
are used to adjust the still image before photographing:

reading, by the control means, only the image signals within the detection area out of the imaging device; and

adjusting, by using the read image signals, the still image before photographing.

7. An image photographing method according to Claim 6, wherein the control means also controls the imaging device when the still image is being photographed.

8. An image photographing method according to Claim 6, wherein the reading step includes the step of allowing the control means to determine a start position of the detection area and the amount of image signals to be read out within the detection area, so that only the image signals within the detection area are read out of the imaging device accordingly.

9. An image photographing method according to Claim 8, further comprising the step of:

allowing the control means to perform a high-speed scan in a region before the start position of the detection area, to perform a predetermined-speed scan in the detection area, and to read out only the determined amount of image signals.

10. An image photographing method according to Claim 6, wherein, based on the read image signals, at least one of automatic focus control, automatic photographic sensitivity control, and automatic white balance control is performed.

09768851-012304
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